THORN

SEXTORTION

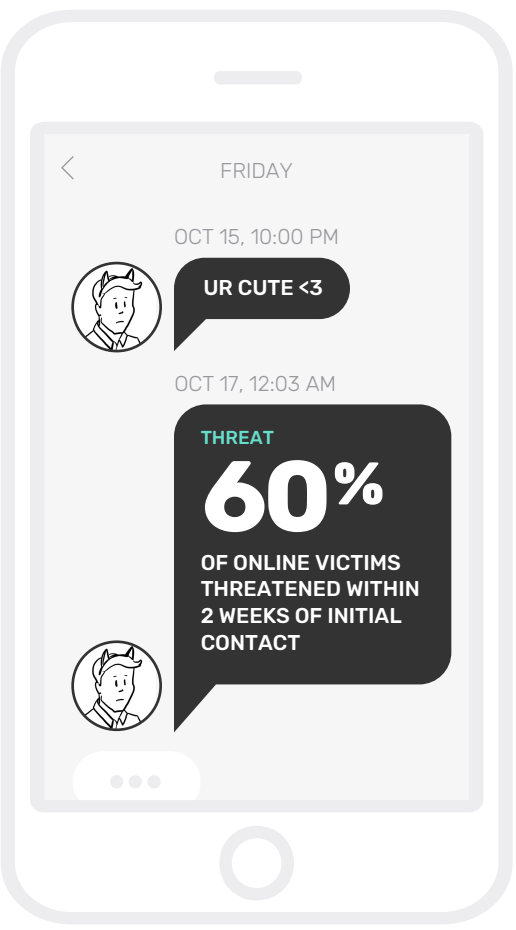
THREATS TO EXPOSE A SEXUAL IMAGE IN ORDER TO MAKE A PERSON DO SOMETHING

Sextortion is happening to kids and teens.

1 IN 4 Victims were **13 or younger** when threatened.

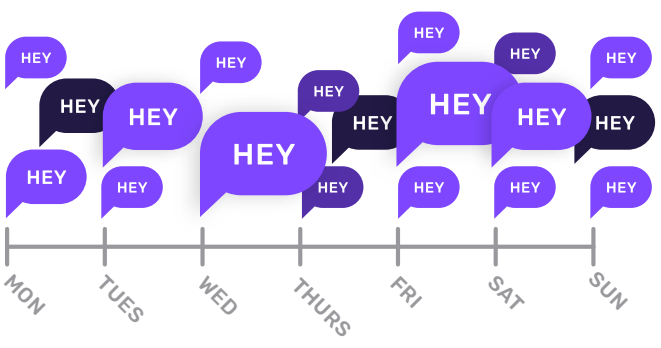
2 IN 3 Victims were **girls threatened before the age of 16**.

Threats happen sooner for online victims.



1 First contact is typically by phone via a social media friend request. Victims are **targeted on platforms they frequent.**

47% Of victims experienced **threats daily.**



Victims are attempting to address the threats themselves.

Some victims took steps to prevent contact...

OCT 19, 9:00 PM

65% OF VICTIMS BLOCKED OFFENDERS FROM CONTACTING THEM IN HOPES OF GETTING AWAY.

...but threats continued.

OCT 19, 2:55 PM

WHY DID YOU BLOCK ME?

OCT 19, 3:00 PM

45% OF VICTIMS REPORTED THAT THE CONTACT DIDN'T STOP AFTER BLOCKING OFFENDERS.

While others complied with offender demands.

OCT 19, 5:00 PM

HEY, COME ON. SEND A PIC

IT'S ONLY ONE

OCT 19, 5:17 PM

FINE, I'LL SEND ONE IF YOU STOP

62% COMPLIED WITH DEMANDS IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE THE THREATS STOP.

But threats became more frequent.

OCT 20, 2:34 AM

SEND MORE.

MORE

...OR ELSE

OCT 19, 5:17 PM

68% OF VICTIMS REPORTED THAT THREATS BECAME MORE FREQUENT AFTER THEY COMPLIED WITH DEMANDS.

Victims are staying silent.

1 IN 3 Victims had **never told anyone**, largely because of shame or embarrassment.

> Society continues to dismiss the fact that people are forced into situations (like sending nudes) and that they should be shamed if they are.
>
> — FEMALE / ONLINE / AGE 13

Victims are less likely to report outside of their inner circle.

54% DISCLOSED TO FAMILY / FRIEND

26% REPORTED TO A PLATFORM / WEBSITE

17% REPORTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Stop sextortion before it starts. Learn more at stopsextortion.com

Thorn conducted an online survey in 2017 with 2,097 victims of sextortion from ages 13 to 25.